

# CIA Researcher Vows No Slant

## Analyst Speaks Out

By NOAM S. COHEN

The CIA analyst who will be working on an agency-sponsored project at the Kennedy School said yesterday that he will not use his influence as a research assistant to slant the study.

"You're just going to have to trust me," said William Kline, an Africa expert at the CIA.

In his first interview on the project, Kline said his agency background would be "helpful" to the school's \$1.2 million program, which will study the way foreign policy-makers use intelligence reports. Kline will be a research associate at the the K-school beginning this January, supported by a CIA salary.

"I am not going to slant the work," Kline said. "People [in government] are after the truth, that's the way the system works best."

Kline's role in the project has been a question-mark for a program that has been otherwise hailed as a

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## CIA Analyst: No Bias

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breakthrough for CIA-university relations. In a break with tradition, the agency in this contract agreed to be named as the sponsor and to allow all results from the research to be made public.

On Friday, K-School Academic Dean Albert Carnesale said in an interview that "we have to be very careful with [Kline's] relation to the project."

Under the terms of the agreement, K-School faculty members Warren Professor of History Ernest May, Ford Professor of Government Richard Neustadt and K-School Lecturer Gregory Trevorton, will hold two, week-long "executive training sessions" for senior CIA analysts.

In addition, May and Neustadt will use the grant to help prepare case studies about major U.S. foreign policy activities which will be used in the training sessions and later published. Kline will work on the case studies, perhaps writing one, said Associate Dean Peter Zimmerman.

Kline's stay at the K-School was not formally included in the contract that was hammered out over the summer, Zimmerman said. But according to Kline and others, the negotiations included discussions of hiring Kline.

In his first interview, Kline differed with a common characterization of the program by saying that he did not think the CIA would declassify many agency materials for the project. Administrators have indicated that the unprecedented access could likely lead to more materials about foreign policies in Iran, for example.

"I can't turn declassified materials loose," said the more than 20-year veteran of the agency.

"There really is enough [declassified materials] available at the level the K-School is working at," he said. "Look at Iran, there are scads of [detailed accounts] available you can work with."

Kline said, however, that he would have to be wary of writing about topics he worked on for the CIA because readers would think he would have an interest in the presentation.

He said that in such a case, people could think he either released material he should not have or wrote an account that made the agency look good. But he added that ultimately he cannot fight broader criticisms of his research.

"If people start out that everyone in government will write propaganda, then they should read it critically," he said.

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